

# A SOLDIER'S REQUEST

*Treat me with respect, Sergeant.*

*For no heart in all the world is more loyal than the heart of an American soldier.*

*Do not break my spirit with your words, Sergeant.*

*For though I will do what you demand, your guidance, patience, and understanding will more quickly teach me to "Be, Know, Do."*

*Speak with me often, Sergeant, for I must learn to fight and win in the heat, the cold, the wet, and the desert.*

*Those who would be our enemies will use the elements.*

*I must be prepared.*

*I ask no greater glory, Sergeant, than to defend our country and our way of life, against all enemies, both foreign and domestic.*

*Allow me that privilege Sergeant... train me.*

*Provide me the necessities of food and drink, Sergeant.*

*Train me to be self-sufficient, that I may lead the way, and stand ready, willing, and able to protect you, with my life if necessary, should your life be in danger.*

*Train me, Sergeant, so that one day I too can be called "Sergeant"- trainer of soldiers, the backbone of the Army.*

*Train me to accept those responsibilities that are yours.*

*Train me, and train my fellow soldiers to be the greatest defenders of freedom in the world.*

*Sergeant, I shall leave this Army and my last breath, that my fate ends.*

*Sergeant, train me, so that I too can earn the title, "Sergeant."*

-- Frank M. McMahan